

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 AID-20

CIAE-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-20

NSC-10 L-03 TAR-02 INT-08 GSA-02 STR-08 DRC-01 /147 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9164

INFO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, DR

SUBJECT: US FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS: REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION

REF: SD 4380

SD 3208

1. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS USG RECORDS SHOW METALDOM IMPORTED 3,000 TONS OF IRON SCRAP DURING FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1973 AND HAS LICENSES FOR ADDITIONAL 11,000 TONS FOR REMAINDER OF YEAR, COMPARED TO TOTAL IMPORTS OF SCRAP FROM US OF 13,000 TONS IN 1972. METALDOM OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, HAVE EXPLAINED THAT THESE FACTS ARE INACCURATE MEASURE OF CURRENT REQUIREMENTS FOR US SCRAP IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC; THEY OFFERED FOLLOWING REASONS:

2. IN JANUARY, 1973, METALDOM PLACED IN OPERATION A KOPERS (US) CONTINUOUS INGOT-CASTING MILL, WHICH CHANGED COMPANY'S RAW MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS OVERWHELMINGLY TO IRON SCRAP. UNTIL THAT TIME, METALDOM RELIED ON IMPORTED STEEL INGOTS, AS WELL AS LOCAL SCRAP. (15,000 TONS OF INGOTS WERE IMPORTED IN 1972.) IN ADDITION, IN MARCH, 1973, METALDOM ORDERED A NEW H.K. PORTER (US) FURNACE, TO BE INSTALLED SHORTLY, WHICH WILL DOUBLE PRESENT CAPACITY, IN CONJUNCTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH THE KOPERS MILL.

3. SINCE THE FOUNDING OF METALDOM (1966), THE LOCAL SUPPLY OF SCRAP HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY DIMINISHED BY ITS OPERATION; DURING 1973 THE SITUATION HAS BECOME ACUTE AND SUPPLIES ARE NOW PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTENT. IN 1972 20,000 TONS OF LOCAL SCRAP WERE USED. (NOTE: AN EMBASSY OFFICER HAS PERSONALLY NOTED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SUBSTANTIAL STOCKPILES AT METALDOM IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR AND THE CURRENTLY NEAR-EMPTY BINS).

4. THE OUTSTANDING LICENSE FOR 11,000 TONS REPRESENTS A METALDOM CONTRACT SIGNED IN FEB, 1973, WITH A PUERTO RICAN FIRM (CRESPO) FOR 2,000 TONS PER MONTH. CRESPO, HOWEVER, HAS ONLY SHIPPED 120 TONS TOTAL AND HAS INFORMED METALDOM THAT IT CANNOT SHIP ANY MORE.

5. COMMENT: METALDOM OFFICIALS STATED THEY WOULD BE QUITE SATISFIED IF THEY COULD SOMEHOW OBTAIN THIS YEAR THE 11,000 TONS FOR WHICH CRESPO HAS A LICENSE. THEY ALSO HOPE THAT A TOTAL OF 30,000 TO 40,000 TONS CAN BE AUTHORIZED FOR CY 1974 WHEN QUOTAS FOR THAT YEAR ARE CONSIDERED.

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